BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1969

H. C. WEIR, *M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.*

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY LIBRARY

BOLDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1969

H. C. WEIR, *M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.*

CONTENTS

Page

Committees 3

Preface 4

Section A—Statistics of the Area.

(a) General Statistics 6

(b) Physical and Social 6

(c) Vital Statistics 7

Section B—General Provision of Health Services

(a) Public Health Services 11

(b) Local Health Authority Services 11

(c) Hospital Services 15

(d) Executive Council 15

Section C—Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Others Diseases 16

Section D—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area 21

Section E—Housing in the Area 29

Section F—Food Hygiene 31

Boldon Urban District Council, 1969

Chairman

Councillor J. R. PEARS

Vice-Chairman: Councillor E. O. TELFORD.

MEMBERS

Boldon Colliery Ward

Coun. J. R. Pears.
Coun. E. O. Telford.

New Town (Boldon Colliery) Ward

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. O. Clark.
Coun. H. Scott.

East Boldon Ward

Coun. J. C. G. Durham.
Coun. J. J. Berryman.

West Boldon Ward

Coun. J. Roberts.

Whitburn Ward

Coun. S. Robinson.
Coun. L. Hannah.
Coun. R. H. Burdsall.

Whitburn Colliery Ward

Coun. T. W. Cockburn.

Cleadon Ward

Coun. T. Brown.
Coun. J. Tate.

CHAIRMAN OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.

UNITED DISTRICTS OF JARROW, HEBBURN, FELLING AND BOLDON

Coun. L. Hannah.
Coun. E. O. Telford.
Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. H. Scott.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL
No. 5 AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Coun. Mrs. M. Gibson.
Coun. L. Hannah.
Coun. E. O. Telford.

PREFACE

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
East Boldon,
County Durham.

Telephone: 7241.

To the Chairman and Members of the Boldon Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, on the health of the Urban District and the work of the Health Department, for the year 1969.

The Health Statistics are set out in detail in the body of the report; there are, however, certain features on which I should like to comment.

The population of the Urban District rose during the year by 190 to 23,130. The natural increase, i.e. excess of births over deaths, was 54. The birth rate showed a decrease to 13.7 per 1,000 population compared with 16.1 in 1968, the standardized birth rate (i.e. corrected for age and sex distribution of the population) was 12.7 compared with the national figure of 16.3.

The Infant Mortality Rate showed a decrease to 6.0 per 1,000 live births from 16.0 in 1968; this is still below the national figure of 18.0 for England and Wales. Of the 2 infant deaths, both were caused by Congenital Abnormalities.

There were 263 deaths in 1969 with a death rate of 11.4 which compares quite favourably with 1968, but the standardized death rate of 12.8 was more than 11.9 for England and Wales. Heart Disease was the most important cause of death with 84 deaths. The deaths from Lung Cancer were down and I am glad to report that Clean Air Zones have now started in Boldon. The most common single cause of death was Ischaemic Heart Disease, which accounted for 42 male and 25 female deaths; this is an

increase on the mortality from this disease from the previous year. Deaths from Respiratory Disease were less this year, as were those from Cancer.

There was a decrease in the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year; this was mainly accounted for by the decrease in Measles notifications, with 9 cases compared with 92 during the previous year. Further references to infectious disease will be found in Section C of the Report.

This is the Seventh Annual Report which I have the honour of presenting to you during my term as Medical Officer of Health from which I retired in January, 1970. I wish, therefore, to conclude by expressing my most sincere appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from all Members of the Council, Council Officials, and members of my staff in the Health Department.

H. C. WEIR,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the district in acres—7,344.
Estimated resident population—23,130.
Number of inhabited houses—8,092.
Number of Council houses—2,988.
Number of Council houses erected during the year—36.
Number of private houses erected during the year—157.
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1969—£698,429.
Sum represented by a penny rate £2,600.

(b) PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL

1. **Description of the Area**

The Urban District covers an area of 7,344 acres and is essentially rural in character with more than 50 farms or other agricultural premises. It forms a green belt etween South Tyneside and North Wearside and is roughly rectangular in shape extending inland from the North Sea coast for a distance of over six miles. In this setting there are the following five communities: Whitburn, Cleadon, East Boldon, West Boldon and Boldon Colliery; the last of these is largely industrial and accomodates approximately one-third of the total population of the Urban District. The remainder of the Urban District is to a large extent residential and many of the inhabitants are employed outside the district.

2. **Employment**

The Manager of the Employment Exchange has kindly supplied the following information relating to employment, unemployment and disablement.

MAIN INDUSTRIES

The main industries are: Coalmining, Electrical Manufactures, Building and Agriculture.

There are 42 employers in the Urban District with 3,088 employees (2,863 men and 225 women).

UNEMPLOYMENT

At January, 1970, the position was as follows:—

	Total on Register	Temporarily Stopped
Females	21	—
Males	337	3
	358	3

DISABLEMENT

There are 177 males and 17 females on the register of disabled persons. There were 44 men and no women unemployed.

All the above figures are in respect of persons over 18 years of age.

(c) EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	M.	F.	Total 1969	Total 1968
Total	175	142	317	370
Legitimate	162	137	299	350
Illegitimate	13	5	18	20
Birth Rate	13.7			
Comparability Factor	0.93			
Standardized Birth Rate	12.7			
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	5.7			

Still Births

	M.	F.	Total 1969	Total 1968
Total	2	3	5	3
Legitimate	2	3	5	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—
Rate per thousand live and still births	16			
Rate per thousand estimated resident population	0.22			
Total live and still births			322	373

Deaths

	M.	F.	Total 1969	Total 1968
All Causes	134	129	263	241
Death Rate	11.4			
Comparability Factor	1.12			
Standardized Death Rate	12.8			

Principal Causes of Death

	M.	F.	Total 1969	Total 1968	% of total deaths 1969	% of total deaths 1968
Heart Disease (all types)	48	36	84	74	31.9	30.7
Cancer (all types)	25	26	51	60	19.4	20.8
Respiratory Disease	24	17	41	46	15.6	19.1
Diseases of Nervous System	22	26	48	22	18.3	9.1

Infant Mortality

Under 1 Year of Age

	M.	F.	Total 1969	Total 1968
Total	2	—	2	6
Legitimate	2	—	2	5
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age:—

	M.	F.	Total 1969	Total 1968
Total	2	—	2	4
Legitimate	2	—	2	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1

Neo-Natal Death Rate

(i.e. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)
6

Deaths of infants under one week:—

	M.	F.	Total 1969	Total 1968
Total	2	—	2	3
Legitimate	2	—	2	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1

Early neo-natal mortality rate 6

Causes of Infant Deaths

Congenital Anomalies 2

	Total 1969	Total 1968
Perinatal Mortality rate	22	19
Maternal Mortality rate (including abortion)		
Number of deaths	Nil	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil	Nil

Comparison of Vital Statistics

	England & Wales		Boldon	
	1969	1968	1969	1968
Standardized Birth Rate	16.3	16.9	12.7	15.0
Infant Mortality	18.0	18.0	6.0	16.0
Still Birth Rate	13.0	14.0	16.0	8.0
Standardized Death Rate	11.9	11.9	12.8	11.8

CAUSES OF DEATH 1969

	Male	Female	Total 1969	Comparison with 1968 +	—
Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	—	1	1	1	—
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1	2	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	1	—	1	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	2	—	2	2	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	6	8	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	4	7	7	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	9	3	12	—	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	4	4	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	3	3	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	—	2	2	—
Leukaemia	1	1	2	1	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms	5	5	10	—	16
Diabetes Mellitus	1	2	3	—	1
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	—	1	1	—
Anaemias	—	5	5	5	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	2	1	3	1	—
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	2	2	4	—	—
Hypertensive Disease	2	1	3	1	—
Ischaemic Heart Disease	42	25	67	5	—
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	8	10	4	—

Cerebrovascular Disease	20	25	45	25	—
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	4	5	—	2
Influenza	2	1	3	2	—
Pneumonia	8	6	14	—	6
Bronchitis and Emphysema	13	7	20	3	—
Asthma	—	2	2	—	2
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	—	1	1	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	—	1	1	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1	2	—	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	—	1	1	—	2
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	—	1	1	1	—
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	—	1	1	—
Congenital Anomalies	2	—	2	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	3	1	—
All Other Accidents	4	3	7	2	—
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	—	1	—	—
	134	129	263	70	41

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

1. Staff of Health Department:—

Medical Officer of Health,
H. C. WEIR, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., M.R.S.H., F.R.I.P.H.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector,
R. W. ARMSTRONG, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.I.P.H.E.

Additional Public Health Inspector,
J HEMSLEY.

Clerk,
MISS B. CARTER.

Rodent Operator,
P. C. T. JACKSON.

2. Laboratory Services

Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory, Havelock Hospital, Hylton Road, Sunderland, which is under the direction of Dr. P. B. Crone. The results and numbers of specimens for the year 1969 are as follows:—

	Pos.	Neg.	Total
Faeces and Urine	11	35	46

3. National Assistance Act, 1948

Section 47—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.
No action was necessary during the year.
Section 50—Burial or Cremation of Dead.
No action was necessary during the year.

(b) LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Under the National Health Service Act, 1949, Part III, the Personal Health Services are provided by Durham County Council and administered through the Area Health Sub-Committee on which Boldon U.D.C. is represented by three members.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN
(Section 22)

Ante-Natal

The following figures show the number of expectant mothers who attended the Clinics, and the number of visits which these mothers paid to the Clinics.

Number of Mothers	52
Attendances	92

Child Welfare

Sessions: Alternate Mondays, Tuesday mornings and alternate Tuesday afternoons at the Child Welfare Clinic, Boker Lane, East Boldon.

Thursdays at the Barnes Institute, Whitburn.
Alternate Monday mornings at the Church Hall, Cleadon.

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the Clinics and the number of attendance of these children throughout the year.

	No. of Children			Attendances		
	Under 1	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	Under 1	1-2 yrs.	2-5 yrs.
Whitburn	59	73	192	840	370	450
Boldon	160	192	334	1,436	600	687
Cleadon	40	54	147	409	226	312

MIDWIFERY
(Section 25)

There are 3 County Midwives in Boldon. No midwives practise privately in the area.

During the year they attended 91 confinements, which represents 29 per cent. of all registered live and still births.

Domiciliary Confinements

			Analgesia		
	Booked	Not Booked	Gas & Air	Pethidine	Trilene
Present at Delivery	15	1	4	4	6
Not Present	75	—	65	58	—
	90	1	69	62	6

HOME NURSING
(Section 25)

The following visits were made by Home Nurses in the area.

	Cases	Visits
Medical	236	6276
Surgical	55	1076
Tuberculosis	9	180
Others	—	31
	337	7563

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION
(Section 26)

The following tables give the number of children vaccinated and immunised at the clinics and by General Practitioners in the district.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

					Revaccination		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Under 16	Total	1-15	16 and over	Total
5	126	6	—	137	10	—	10

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
5	156	37	198	144	287	431

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
5	156	5	166	111	25	136

TETANUS IMMUNISATION

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
5	156	38	199	141	291	432

POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

Primary Injections				Reinforcing Doses		
Under 1	1-4	5-15	Total	1-4	5-16	Total
5	167	43	215	9	303	312

B.C.G. VACCINATION

Number of children skin tested	199
Number of children positive	4
Number of children negative	187
Number absent at time of reading	8

AMBULANCE SERVICE

All requests for ambulance transport should be made to the Ambulance Control Centre, telephone Durham 4488.

HEBBURN DEPOT

Journeys	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	Mileage
9,254	4,678	35,019	39,697	209,867

No. of Ambulances	10
No. of Drivers	28
Depot Superintendents	1

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE
(Section 28)

Cases discharged from hospital, and requiring after-care, are treated by home nurses or supervised and advised by the Health Visitors. Sick room equipment such as urine bottles, bed pans, bed rests, air cushions, mattresses and rubber sheeting, can be had on loan.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE
(Section 29)

No. of Home Helps employed	62
No. of cases attended at 1.1.69	106
No. of new cases provided with Home Helps	52
No. of cases attended at 31.12.69	101
Type of cases served:—	
Old Aged Pensioners	153
Sickness	4
Tuberculosis	1
Maternity	—
	158

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959

Mentally Subnormal	
Under Supervision	60
In Hospital	15
Mentally Ill	
Formal and Informal admissions arranged by Mental Welfare Officers	19
Children notified during the years as:—	
Ineducable	2
Requiring supervision after leaving school	1

(c) HOSPITAL SERVICES

The only Hospital situated in the Urban District is Boldon Hospital which now accommodates mild mentally ill cases. There are 30 beds.

VENEREAL DISEASE CLINICS

The following number of patients were treated at the Sunderland, South Shields and Newcastle Clinics during 1969.

	Syphillis		Gonorrhoea		Non-Venereal	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Sunderland	—	1	1	—	6	3
Newcastle	—	—	1	—	—	3
South Shields	—	—	1	—	6	—
	—	1	3	—	12	6

BLOOD TRANSFUSION

Mr. Evans, the Regional Organiser, has kindly suplied details of the donor panels and the sessions in Boldon during the year.

Date of Sessions	No. of Donors attending
21st February	98
29th July	100
Donor Panel 31/12/69	208
New Donors bled during 1969	7

(d) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Urban District is served by six General Practitioners residing in the district.

Dr. L. Ingram, Osborne House, West Boldon. Boldon 7515

Dr. J. Keatings, Health Centre, Boker Lane, East Boldon. Boldon 7168

Dr. W. Hall, Health Centre, Boker Lane, East Boldon. Boldon 7168

Dr. A. Forbes, Health Centre, Boker Lane, East Boldon. Boldon 7408

Dr. J. J. Kinsella, Health Centre, Boker Lane, East Boldon. Boldon 7408

Dr. J. W. Salkeld, Health Centre, Boker Lane, East Boldon. Boldon 7408
and 4 East Street, Whitburn. Whitburn 2377

Doctors from South Shields, Jarrow and Sunderland also attend patients in this district

MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE

A meals on wheels service, for the aged, sick and needy, is operated by the Urban District Council in conjunction with the W.R.V.S. The meals are cooked at the N.C.B. canteens at Boldon Colliery and Whitburn and are collected and delivered by the W.R.V.S.

During 1969 6,240 meals were delivered and a total of 60 persons, receiving two meals per week, were provided with meals.

SECTION C

Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases

Measles

The usual biennial epidemic pattern was maintained and as expected there was a substantial decrease in the number of cases notified; there being 9 cases compared with 92 during the previous year. The cases notified during 1969 occurred during the winter months of November and December.

Whooping Cough

There were 2 cases notified during the year compared with none the previous year. Immunisation against this disease, which is offered both by General Practitioners and Local Authority Clinics, is strongly recommended and it is hoped that more mothers will avail themselves of this aid to the health of their children.

Dysentery

There were 4 cases of Sonne Dysentery notified during 1969 compared with 1 case during the previous year. This is a satisfactory figure in view of the fact that Sonne Dysentery, to some extent, is endemic in the area; however, many mild or subclinical cases are never notified and are treated as ordinary minor upsets.

Food Poisoning

It is pleasing to record that there were only 3 cases of Food Poisoning reported. Improved standards of hygiene are evident in both catering establishments and in the domestic sphere, and it is most important that these be maintained.

Poliomyelitis

Once more we had a year clear of Poliomyelitis. Continued propaganda is therefore essential to enable this disease to be finally eliminated from our midst.

Tuberculosis

There were 9 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis notified in 1969 compared with 5 cases during the previous year. There was 1 case of non-respiratory Tuberculosis notified during the year. This is a satisfactory state, but it cannot be too strongly emphasized that every child should be fully immunised against this disease as this is the only possible way of keeping it at bay.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
Summary for five year period, 1965—1969

		Diseases Notifiable										
	Population	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Pulmonary T.B.	Non-Pulmonary T.B.	Food Poisoning	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Poliomyelitis	Paratyphoid	Dysentery
1965	25,960	—	3	5	5	1	5	94	8	—	—	2
1966	26,120	—	3	16	—	—	2	128	6	—	—	11
1967	22,760	—	—	8	1	2	2	30	12	—	—	10
1968	22,940	—	1	5	2	4	2	92	—	—	—	1
1969	23,130	—	1	9	1	3	—	9	2	—	—	4

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1969

Diseases	All Ages													
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Unknown	Cases admitted to hospital	Total 1969	Total 1968	Increase or Decrease 1969
Tuberculosis Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	3	1	—	4	9	5	+4
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	2	—2
Dysentery	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	4	1	+3
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—2
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	4	—1
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	+2
Measles	—	1	1	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	92	—83
TOTALS	—	1	4	10	—	1	7	4	1	1	6	29	107	—78

INFECTIOUS DISEASES — CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1969

Diseases	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Tuberculosis Respiratory	—	1	—	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	9
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	9
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTALS	—	2	1	3	3	3	—	4	1	1	3	8	29

TUBERCULOSIS

The table below shows the incidence of new cases and of deaths from tuberculosis over the last 20 years.

Year	Population	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths
1950	17,100	20	7	8	1
1951	16,740	18	5	4	2
1952	17,150	19	2	1	—
1953	17,440	16	2	3	—
1954	17,600	16	6	3	—
1955	18,020	5	5	2	1
1956	18,390	18	3	5	1
1957	18,960	14	2	2	—
1958	19,540	9	1	2	—
1959	20,230	13	2	2	—
1960	20,810	9	—	2	—
1961	22,540	9	1	—	—
1962	23,280	23	1	3	—
1963	24,310	7	—	2	—
1964	25,460	4	1	3	—
1965	25,960	5	1	5	—
1966	26,120	13	1	—	—
1967	22,760	8	—	1	—
1968	22,940	5	1	2	2
1969	23,130	9	2	1	—

SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector on the Environmental Conditions of the District.
Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

During 1969 the general level of hygiene in the district continued at its normal good standard and relations with the public were, on the whole, very satisfactory.

The most notable improvement was in the continued progress of the Clean Air Programme. By December, 16 orders were confirmed, and 14 in operation, covering an area of 2,367 acres and representing about 34% of the premises in the district.

I wish to thank the Chairman of the Health Committee, Councillor Mrs. M. Gibson, and the Members of the Council for their assistance and support during the year, and the Officers and Staff of the other departments for the willing co-operation they have afforded on occasions during the year, my twenty-first with the Council.

R. W. ARMSTRONG,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES

The district is supplied by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company, whose Engineer provided the following information:—

Analysis of Water Supply

(1) The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the year 1969.

(2) Bacteriological examinations have been made during the from the source which constitutes the supply, also from reservoirs and consumer taps. The following results were obtained:—

	No. of Samples.	% Free from Non-Faecal Organisms.	% Free from Faecal Organisms.
Reservoirs and Wells	156	100	100
Consumer Taps	82	97.6	100

(3) The water supplied to the district has been a mixture of the Derwent Reservoir supply, plus a hard well water. During the year 51 samples of water have been taken after overnight standing in lead pipes. All samples are well below the limits laid down by the World Health Organisation.

(4) There has been no contamination and therefore no action has been necessary.

(5) There are 8,124 domestic premises connected to the Company's mains in the area. There are no standpipes in the area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

1,803 yards of drain were examined during the year, nearly all being private dwellings built in the area. This was a little less than last year.

The work is generally of good standard and mostly of standard glazed pipes, although some pitch fibre pipes are used.

The sewerage of the district appears to be quite adequate. The untreated sewage discharges to the sea and into the tidal waters of the River Tyne.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There has been no change in the numbers of ash and chemical closets, the few remaining are in parts of the district where there are no sewers, and the cost of installing septic tanks or cesspools would be uneconomic.

Estimated figures are:—

Type of Closet	1967	1968	1969
Ash Closets and Privy's	14	14	14
Water Closets	8,777	9,049	9,242
Chemical Closets	12	12	12

SCHOOLS

No complaints were received about the sanitary condition of schools in the district. Several schools were treated for the destruction of rats or mice with good results.

Water supplies in schools are all from service mains of the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company, and are satisfactory.

It was not necessary to take any special action in respect of infectious disease in school children.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of household refuse is carried out by direct labour under the control of the Surveyor in a satisfactory manner. The refuse is disposed of by tipping on Sunderland Corporation Tip which is just outside the southern boundary of the district.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

During 1969 steady progress has been made in the making of Clean Air Orders, and at the end of the year 16 had been made and confirmed, whilst 14 were in force. A total of 3,073 properties and 2,367 acres of land are covered and this represents 34% of the premises and 32.2% of the area.

It is unfortunate that the Ministry of Fuel and Power and the National Coal Board have requested Local Authorities to defer any further areas during 1970, but it is hoped that during this time a decision will be made as to the type of conversion to be carried out in the older council houses.

AGRICULTURAL (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT, 1956

No statutory action has been found necessary under the sections enforceable by the Council during the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Two premises in the district are licensed for the boarding of cats and dogs. Both are privately owned, and the arrangements made seem reasonably good.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The table below is in the from required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Properties Other Than Sewers	Type of Property Non Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	8966	83
2. a. Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	196	1
b. Number infested by (i) rats	156	1
(ii) mice	38	—
3. a. Total number of properites inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	39	25
b. Number infested by (i) rats	26	8
(ii) mice	5	—
Sewers		
4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year?	No	

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

A complaint about excessive noise from the operation of a Concrete Mixing Plant was received. The plant is only about 1 year old and the greatest noise is produced by the mixer itself and also from the diesel motor turning the drum on the lorries during loading. The houses nearest to the plant are about 150 yards away with a pasture field in between.

The firm have erected a baffle around the loading bay, and as a result of the Council's action, are now in course of enclosing the two main electric motors of the plant with sound absorbing covers and closing the side of the loading bay facing the houses with steel sheets which are also to be lined. The diesel motors are to be fitted with a universal silencer which will be applied to each one during loading.

FACTORY ACT 1961

47 visits were made to premises registered as factories in this district.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

(1) Inspections for purposes as to health made by Public Health Inspector.

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority	1	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	29	29	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ..	4	12	—	—
Total	34	47	—	—

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	1	—	—	—

Outworkers (Section 133 and 134)

There are two persons registered as outworkers in the district.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During 1969 there was a slight increase in the number of cases of Salmonella infections. None were proved to be caused by foodstuffs, but all cases were investigated and followed up until all infection was eliminated from the families concerned.

DISINFESTATION OF HOUSES

81 requests for assistance in freeing premises infested with vermin were received. Most of the complaints were due to cockroaches, and spraying and dusting with insecticides was found effective in all these cases, but some were for infestations of clover mites and wasps.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A total of 193 visits were made and no very serious breaches of the Act were discovered. A total of 134 premises are registered; 462 persons are employed in them. 23 defects were found under the Act and 23 were remedied.

A summary below shows the type of defects found:—

	Defects Found	Defects Remedied
Section 4—Cleanliness	1	1
Section 5—Overcrowding	—	—
Section 6—Temperature	1	1
Section 7—Ventilation	—	—
Section 8—Lighting	1	1
Section 9—**Sanitary Accommodation** Defective	2	2
Section 10—**Washing Facilities** Insufficient	4	4
Section 11—Water Supply	—	—
Section 12—Clothing Accommodation	1	1
Section 13—Chairs—Shops	2	2
Chairs—Offices	—	—
Section 15—Meal Facilities	—	—
Section 16—Floors, passages and stairs	—	—
Section 17—Fencing of Machinery	—	—
Section 24—First Aid Kit	6	6
Section 50—Abstract	4	4
No Registration Form	1	1
	23	23

The tables below are in the form laid down in the Annual Reports Order, 1964, as follows:—

TABLE A—REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTION

(1) Class of Premises	(2) Number of premises registered during the year	(3) Total number of registered premises	(4) Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection
Offices	1	16	12
Retail Shops	2	101	65
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	—	1	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	15	11
Fuel Storage depots	—	1	—
Totals	3	134	88

TABLE B—NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

193

TABLE C—ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

(1) Class of Workplace	(2) Number of Persons employed
Offices	52
Retail Shops	303
Wholesale departments, warehouses	2
Catering establishments open to the public	93
Canteens	9
Fuel storage depots	3
TOTAL	462
Total Males	107
Total Females	355

The remainder of the tables D and E dealing with applications for exemption are nil, and two inspectors are appointed to administer the Act.

REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number Reported	Total No. Investigated	Action Recommended: Prosecution	Formal Warning	Informal Advice	No Action
Offices	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Shops	2	2	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering Establishments open to Public, Canteens	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fuel Storage Depots	1	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	3	3	—	—	—	—

ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail Shops	Warehoues	Catering Establishments open to public canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
Machinery	—	—	—	—	—
Transport	—	—	—	—	—
Falls of persons	—	2	—	—	1
Stepping or striking against object or person	—	—	—	—	—
Handling goods	—	—	—	—	—
Struck by falling object	—	—	—	—	—
Fires and Explosions	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools	—	—	—	—	—
Not otherwise stated	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION E

HOUSING

During 1969 only 36 council houses were completed, these being the remainder of the West Boldon development. A new site at Whitburn had the roads and sewers installed and building is expected to commence soon.

The redevelopment of Boldon Colliery and West Boldon has made little progress during the year, but many of the factors involved are beyond the Council's control.

SLUM CLEARANCE

Due to the shortage of accommodation, only one family was rehoused from unfit premises in the year, but the Council have now agreed to a programme for the next four years which should be attained.

One of the difficulties will be to persuade tenants to pay the very high rents which now apply to new houses.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT

The Council are still strongly in favour of encouraging the improvement of houses, but the only persons applying for improvement grants are owner-occupiers and these are being received at a lower level than formerly. All the owners in the area of about 500 houses were urged by letter to apply for grants with few results, none of them being for rented properties.

REPAIR OF HOUSES

The proper maintenance of houses is the one factor which will prevent dwellings deteriorating into slum properties, but even the most recent Housing Acts do not enable any but substantial repairs being dealt with. Health Officers can, therefore, only deal with those matters which are a nuisance or injurious to health and many defects are left to make properties unsightly, thereby lowering their value and that of adjoining houses.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During 1969 23 discretionary and 27 standard grants were approved by the Council for the improvement of dwellings. This brings the total approved since 1959 to 324 discretionary and 138 standard, whilst 96 standard grants and 256 discretionary grants had been paid by December, 1969.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Public Health Acts

Number of houses inspected	103
Number of visits made	338

Under Housing Acts

Number of houses inspected	27
Number of visits made	29
Cases of overcrowding investigated	—
Number of new houses built and occupied during the year	193
Total number of visits made in connection with the above	367

		Total since 1954
Number of houses demolished or closed	5	339
Number of Persons displaced	4	935
Number of families rehoused	1	278
Number of houses repaired under the Public Health Act after formal notices by Local Authority	9	
Number of houses repaired under the Housing Act after formal notices by the Local Authority	NIL	
Number of houses repaired as a result of informal action	24	
Houses at which other matters were remedied under the Public Health Act	2	
Total number of defects remedied	132	
Total number of dwellings on Rate Book at year end	8,092	
Boldon Urban District Council houses	2,988	
Durham County Council houses	26	
Agricultural houses	84	
Private Houses	4,994	

CARAVAN SITES

There are three sites in the district which are licensed for use during the summer months for holiday purposes. The largest has about 65 caravans, the next about 14 and the third 3. They are all on farm lands and the farmers are responsible for the provision of water supply, water closets and arrangements for the deposit and collection of refuse.

SECTION F

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

230 visits were made to the 113 premises in the district in which food is prepared, stored or sold. The standard of most of these premises is good. They are roughly classified as follows but certain businesses deal in one or more main lines.

Confectioners	15	Fresh Fish	5
Butchers	12	Fish Fryers	6
Cafe	1	Grocers	23
Canteens	3	Greengrocers	8
Chemists	6	Licensed Clubs	10
Public Houses	13	Off Licences	11

FOOD HYGIENE GENERAL REGULATIONS 1960 SECTION "C"

Number of premises	113
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 15	113
Number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies	94
Number premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	94

UNFIT FOODS

A complaint of dirty milk was investigated and it was found that the milk was not dirty, but that the bottle had adhering to the inside some material thought to be dust, which was very difficult to remove. Legal action was considered inappropriate.

MILK SAMPLES

Durham County Council take samples of milk in this district and during the year the following results were obtained:—

Un-treated	Past	Ster.	M.B. Passed	M.B. Failed	Phos.	Turb.	Biol.	Anti-bio
36	77	48	114	5	77	48	6	34

MEAT INSPECTION

There are no premises in the district used for the slaughter of livestock and it has, therefore, been necessary to inspect only small quantities of meat in retail shops on routine visits and sometimes at the request of a butcher. It was not necessary to condemn any meat as unfit.

OTHER FOODS

No difficulty is encountered in securing the surrender and destruction of foodstuffs which are unfit for human consumption. Most of the tradesmen seek advice on any food which is doubtful, and willingly surrender any which is unfit. All the businesses are retail and it has not been necessary to examine any very large stocks of food. The following foodstuffs were surrendered and destroyed:—

217 lbs. tinned meats, etc.
23 lbs. chickens.
587 lbs. hams.
486 lbs. home-killed beef.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

Durham County Council are the responsible Authority for the administration of the sections of the Food and Drugs Act which deal with adulteration and abstraction of substances from foods.

The Weights and Measures Department carry out the duties of Sampling Officers, and during the year 1969, 93 were taken, of which 24 were milk. All were found to be genuine.

PETROLEUM ACT 1928

9 visits were made during the year and there are now 27 licensed premises in the district.

The Durham County Fire Prevention Department advises on the condition of every storage place and each licensee was requested to comply with the Department's recommendations.

SHOPS ACT, 1928

The following table shows the position with regard to the statutory notices which should be displayed.

No. of shops in the district	135
Nos. displaying notice of half holiday	111
Nos. not displaying notice of half holiday	12
Nos. displaying notice of Sunday trading	12
Nos. not displaying notice of Sunday trading	8
Nos. displaying notice of assistants' half-holiday	42
Nos. not displaying notice of assistants' half-holiday	29
Nos. displaying notice of Sunday employment and holidays	9
Nos. not displaying notice of Sunday employment and holidays	8

F. & A. Tolson, Limited,
Bede Industrial Estate,
Jarrow. Tel. 897681